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LETTER DATED 22 APRIL 1999 FROM THE CHARGÉ D'AFFAIRES A.I.
OF THE PERMANENT MISSION OF YUGOSLAVIA TO THE UNITED NATIONS
ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

I am writing to express the dissatisfaction of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia with your report of 9 April 1999 on the United Nations Mission of Observers in Prevlaka (UNMOP) (S/1999/404).

The report is biased and tends to downplay the continued violation of the United Nations-mandated regime of the demilitarized zone (so-called Blue and Yellow Zones) by the Republic of Croatia. It takes no account of the data from the internal report of the Chief Military Observer of UNMOP, which contains some of the most evident instances of the violation, such as the construction of fortifications and bunkers or the presence of 39 civilian vehicles with 72 civilians and 10 boats with 14 civilians from the Republic of Croatia in the period between 29 March and 4 April 1999.

Conversely, "the continued presence of troops of the Yugoslav Army in the north-eastern part of the zone" at Bjelotina which, according to the original conception of the United Nations security system, does not belong to the Yellow Zone, has been singled out in the report as "the most significant violation of the demilitarized zone". Similarly, the report notes the presence of 25 Croatian Special Police in the Blue Zone, but the presence is neither condemned nor the withdrawal of the Police requested.

There is no mention in the report of the fact contained in the said internal report that the Republic of Croatia blocks access to United Nations military observers to the area north of Dubravka. There is also no mention of the clear statement of the internal report to the effect that the arguments and documents presented by the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia show that the Republic of Croatia recognized in the past the Montenegrin jurisdiction in part of the disputed area and that the Republic of Croatia enclosed only a copy of the United Nations map from 1992 with the boundaries of the Blue Zone as proof of the extension of the border.

In the light of the aggression of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) against the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, openly supported by the Republic of Croatia, which has agreed to cede its airspace to the aggressor, the



request that an anti-aircraft gun observed at Debeli Brijeg in the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia be removed is unacceptable.

The Federal Republic of Yugoslavia guarantees full security to UNMOP. UNMOP should have secured the same level of security from the NATO aggressor rather than leave the area, which is unacceptable to the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

I should be grateful if you would have the present letter circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Vladislav JOVANOVIĆ
Chargé d'affaires a.i.
